

# WINGSPREAD

Randolph Air Force Base ♦ Texas

60th Year ♦ No. 7 ♦ February 17, 2006

## Suiting up



Staff Sgt. Allen Mendiola (left) helps Senior Airman Alexander Larsen don his protective mask Monday before the pair entered a simulated hazardous materials area on East Perimeter Road during an accident response exercise. The two bioenvironmental engineer technicians from the 12th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron were among about 50 medical, firefighter, security forces and disaster control group members being tested by the wing exercise evaluation team. The weeklong series of exercises the wing conducts quarterly prepares the Randolph community to respond to a variety of accidents and crisis situations. (Photo by Steve White)

# DoD proposes TRICARE hikes for retirees

By Gerry Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department is proposing that working-age military retirees and their families pay higher premiums to help address rising health care costs that have doubled over the past few years, senior DoD officials said Feb. 8 in Washington, D.C.

The proposed changes would apply only to eligible military retirees under age 65 and their families, officials said.

There would be no change for active duty military and their families, or military retirees age 65 or older and their families.

If the proposal is approved, Col. June Gavron, commander of the 12th Medical Group at Randolph, said she would ensure beneficiaries receive current and timely information about the TRICARE health benefit adjustments program and all their health care options throughout the entire implementation process.

“We honor the service and sacrifice of our active duty members, our retirees and their families,” Colonel Gavron said. “I want our beneficiaries to know that maintaining an exceptional health benefit for those we serve by placing the program on a

### Proposed TRICARE Rate Hikes

The Defense Department is proposing TRICARE Prime rate increases for retirees under age 65. Here is the breakdown of how the proposal would be enacted if approved by Congress and the president.

Beneficiary	Current Premium	Premium by Oct. 2008
• Single		
E-6 and Below	\$230	\$325
E-7 and Above	\$230	\$475
Officers	\$230	\$700
• Family		
E-6 and Below	\$460	\$650
E-7 and Above	\$460	\$950
Officers	\$460	\$1,400

sound fiscal foundation for the long term is the vision. TRICARE is the No. 1 health plan in the nation and this proposal, if implemented, would assist to ensure it remains a superior benefit for years to come.”

When the TRICARE health care program for active duty and retired military members and their families was established in 1995, retirees then were contributing about 27 percent of the cost of their benefit, Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., the

assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, said during an interview with Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service reporters at the Pentagon.

However, military health care costs doubled from \$19 billion in 2001 to just over \$37 billion in the 2006 defense budget, Dr. Winkenwerder said.

Today’s average military retiree contribution for health care coverage has also dropped from 27 to about 10 to 12 percent, he said.

“Their contribution did not change, while the value of the benefit continued to rise,” Winkenwerder said.

If approved by Congress and signed off by the president, the proposed TRICARE rate hikes for retirees under age 65 would be phased in over fiscal 2007 and 2008. That should bring up younger retirees’ share of TRICARE costs closer to the 1995 level, he said.

By comparison, Dr. Winkenwerder said, civilians under private plans generally pay between 35 and 40 percent of their health care costs.

The current TRICARE Prime annual enrollment fee for retirees is \$230 for individuals and \$460 for families for both enlisted and commissioned military

See **TRICARE** on page 3

12th Flying Training Wing Training Status											
Pilot Instructor Training <div>As of Monday</div>			Navigator, EWO Students				Wing Flying Hour Program				
			562nd FTS		563rd FTS		Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual	
Squadron	Seniors	Overall	CSO/NFO		CSO		Graduate EWO	T-1A	3828.6	3897.2	10,725
99th FTS	3.0	1.3	USAF	277	OPS	43	International 4	T-6A	6187.2	6157.1	17,196
558th FTS	-3.0	-1.6	Navy	43	Advanced EW	29	EW Course 0	T-37B	1828.1	1852.3	5,796
559th FTS	-2.9	1.4	International	3	Integration	0	Intro to EW 0	T-38C	3365.4	3440.5	9,937
560th FTS	-0.8	3.4	Total in Training	323		72	4	T-43	1457.4	1385.7	3,982
Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training.			Numbers reflect students currently in training. The 562nd shows source of combat systems officer students. Air Force students include Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. The 563rd indicates students in specific courses.				The required and flown numbers reflect hours flown between Oct. 1, 2005 to date. The annual numbers are total hours for fiscal year 2006.				



# Commander's Action Line

Call 652-5149 or e-mail  
randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil



While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better. In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

Col. Richard Clark  
12th Flying Training Wing commander

## Agency Contact Numbers

12th FTW IG	652-2727
12th FTW Legal Office	652-6781
Base Exchange	674-8917
Civil Engineers	652-2401
Civilian Pay	652-6480
Commissary	652-5102
EEO Complaints	652-3749
Equal Opportunity	652-4376
FW&A Hotline	652-3665
Housing Maintenance	652-1856
Military Pay	652-1851
Randolph Clinic	652-2933
Safety Office	652-2224
Security Forces	652-5509
Services	652-5971
Sexual Assault	
Response Coordinator	652-8787
Straight Talk	652-7469
Transportation	652-4314

## “PROTECT YOUR WINGMAN”

DUI...

It's a crime not a mistake

Team Randolph's last DUI was August 2, 2005

# Mentorship is basic responsibility of leaders

By Lt. Col. Tracey Kop  
12th Contracting Squadron Commander

I can honestly say I would not be here today had it not been for the counsel and genuine concern of some exceptional Air Force mentors.

I am sure many of you feel the same. So what I am about to share is nothing new, but a reminder of what you already know.

Mentors can have a profound, if not life-changing, affect on you and those around you. For this reason, the Air Force places responsibility for mentoring directly upon the shoulders of its leaders.

We could go even further and say that it is a fundamental right of all Airmen to have this kind of quality care and guidance throughout their careers.

Besides acknowledging the importance of mentoring, I also want to change how it is generally viewed. It should not be restricted to civilian-to-civilian or military-to-military roles, or even confined to the same career field.

One of my previous supervisors, Karyle Morgan, was neither in the



military nor in my own career field. She was, however, a great mentor.

She shared her perspective and experience on how the largely civilian-led organization operated, what relationships I needed to foster to help me get my job done, what steps to take to obtain my contracting warrant, and was a sounding board when I was as trying to decide what challenges I wanted in my next assignment.

Another important mentor was Col. Doug Hardin, my commander when I was an ROTC instructor. He was a navigator by trade and one of the best and supportive leaders I worked for in my career.

It was through his invaluable advice and encouragement, at a pivotal point in my professional life, when I decided

to stay and make the Air Force a career adventure rather than separate and attend veterinary school.

It is because of Colonel Hardin that my family and I are now part of Team Randolph. This was absolutely the right path and I cannot thank or acknowledge either of them enough for their generosity and support.

From my experiences, you can see firsthand that mentoring is primarily looking out for the interests of others, and it helps the Air Force develop the great leaders and mentors of tomorrow.

If you are a supervisor – military or civilian – you have an impact on those who work for you and even those who do not. Always look for opportunities to enrich the lives of others.

When I was recently selected to command the 12th Contracting Squadron, I sent invitations to those who significantly influenced the direction of my life: my family; Ms. Morgan and Colonel Hardin.

I hope you lead by their example and have many opportunities to share in the successes of those you mentor.

# Get ‘re-blued,’ trust your people

By Maj. Dave Story  
36th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam (AFPN) – I recently had the privilege and honor of presiding over the retirement ceremony for a very successful 26-year veteran.

When it was time for the new retiree to speak, he took us back over his distinguished career, including many temporary duty assignments and the sacrifices of missed time with his family. He said we are all part of a volunteer force – the world's best Air Force – none of us had been drafted or forced to serve. He also reminded us of how the Air Force has progressed over the years.

I discovered I was suddenly “re-blued.”

As I listened to his words, my mind raced to examples of how we've seemed to lose focus of certain principles over the years. I thought in particular about the level of trust we place in our people, be they Airmen, noncommissioned officers, senior NCOs or officers.

One of the many things that make our Air Force the best in the world is our ability to trust one another.

When we lose this ability, we dissolve the very glue that binds us together as a force. Destroying the trust we place in our Airmen unknowingly questions their integrity and ultimately stifles any notions of innovation or excellence.

We must listen to the creeds that are repeated each month. We should remember that our supervisors must be trusted and entrusted to do their jobs.

When we reach the point of questioning their decision-making capabilities, we're sending a strong message. We don't trust you or need you.

We all want to be trusted and given the opportunity to do our jobs. This includes learning from our mistakes if necessary. If we're not given these chances, we'll never attain higher levels of passion, trust and pride.

So what does it mean to be “re-blued?”

In this case, it was a retiree's words that re-blued or inspired me to renew the trust I place in the Airmen I work with daily. He also inspired me to raise this issue with others. I hope they are reminded that without trust, we're just a bunch of individuals as opposed to a winning team.

Sadly, it all too often takes a retirement ceremony and the departing wisdom of a 26-year veteran to remind us how the military was and where we've strayed over the years.

Just like the wing's motto here, I was reminded that we should have passion for our jobs, we should trust our people, and we should take pride in our accomplishments.

Please trust your people. We'll reach greater heights and achieve bigger goals if we do.

## WINGSPREAD

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Division of the 12th Flying Training Wing in accordance with local policy and style guidance. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are U.S. Air Force photos.

Articles for the newspaper should be submitted by noon Thursday the week prior to the desired publication date. Items can be dropped off on a PC- or Macintosh-formatted disk at the Wingspread office in room 110 of Building 100.

Articles may also be sent by e-mail to [wingspread@randolph.af.mil](mailto:wingspread@randolph.af.mil) or by fax at 652-5412 or base ext. 7-5412.

For more information about submissions, call 652-5760 or base ext. 7-5760.

## Congratulations Retirees

### Today

Tech. Sgt. Robert Pedersen

Air Education and Training Command

### Wednesday

Tech. Sgt. Noe DeHoyos

Air Force Manpower Agency

Retirement announcements should be submitted to the Wingspread office by noon Friday two weeks prior to the desired date of publication.

E-mail announcements to [randolph.retiree.messages@randolph.af.mil](mailto:randolph.retiree.messages@randolph.af.mil) or fax them to 652-5412. For more information, call the Wingspread office at 652-5760.



# Tops in Blue lights up stage Thursday

***Air Force's premier entertainment group performs in Hangar 4 at 7 p.m.***

By Armando Perez  
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Tops in Blue, Air Force's premier entertainment group, performs Thursday at 7 p.m. in Hangar 4.

This year's show, entitled, "...And The Beat Goes On," includes a mixture of music and energetic beats from the 1940s to today.

"Tops in Blue presents a fun-filled, action-packed performance showcasing hits with their own spin from great performers like the Platters, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Billy Joel, Gloria Estafan, The Weather Girls and much more," said Shelta Reese, 12th Services Division marketing director.

The group also pays homage to Air Force members and their families for their service to the nation with an array of popular patriotic songs, she said.

Tickets are not required for the show. Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis and doors open about 45 minutes before the show begins, she said.

Tops in Blue is the is one of the oldest and most widely traveled entertainment groups of its kind, composed of 35 active-duty vocalists, musicians, dancers and technicians. Each year, Air Force members stationed worldwide compete in a multilevel competition for the right to be selected as a member of Tops in Blue.

The group's main purpose is to perform for military members and their families

throughout the world. However, the enormous popularity of the group has also made them America's goodwill ambassadors around the globe, Ms. Reese said.

The tour season begins each year with a 60-day training period at the Tops in Blue home at Lackland AFB. The team's training prepares them to succeed as world-class entertainers and distinguished Air Force Ambassadors during their nine-month tour, Ms. Reese said.

The performers must not only master the instrumental, vocal, choreography and staging requirements of the performance, but also the responsibilities of being their own technical staff. Under the guidance of five technical personnel, the performing team is responsible for setting up more than 40,000 pounds of staging, lighting, audio and special effects equipment required for each performance.

With more than 50 years of touring tradition, Tops in Blue has visited all bases in the United States and more than 25 foreign countries. Their tour schedule spans more than 120 locations and also includes entertaining forward-deployed troops in various locations, such as Iraq, Qatar, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

The Randolph AFB Tops in Blue performance is sponsored by AT&T, Coca-Cola and Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union.



## AETC announces colonel assignments

Gen. William Looney, commander of Air Education and Training Command, announced the reassignment and retirement of several senior officers in the command Feb. 9, including a few involving Randolph.

Col. David Allvin becomes the new vice commander of the 12th Flying Training Wing in May. He comes to Randolph from the Pentagon where he was chief of the Organizational Policy Branch for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

He replaces Col. William Watkins, who temporarily took the vice wing position when Col. Richard Clark became wing commander in January.

The 12th Operations Group commander is leaving Randolph this summer. Col. John Newell has been selected to attend National War College at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

Col. Christopher Weggeman, currently attending Air War

College at Maxwell AFB, Ala., will arrive in June to replace Colonel Newell as 12th OG commander.

Col. Shugato Davis, chief of the Force Management and Analysis Division at the Air Force Personnel Center will become vice commander of the 325th Fighter Wing, Tyndall AFB, Fla., at a date to be determined.

In other AETC senior officer moves outside Randolph, Col. Daniel Groeschen will take command of the 314th Mission Support Group at Little Rock AFB, Ark., this summer. He is currently assigned to U.S. Central Command at MacDill AFB, Fla.

Two officers have announced their retirements. Col. Brian Dickerson, vice commander of the 325th FW retires effective Jan. 1, 2007, and Col. John Starkey, commander of the 314th MSG retires Oct. 1.

### Certified to fly



**Gen. William Looney, commander of Air Education and Training Command, signs the paperwork being held by Capt. Casey Hall of 19th Air Force Monday that certifies the AETC East and West Coast T-6A Texan II Aerial Demonstration Teams to fly at air shows in the upcoming season. The teams perform their aerial maneuvers at the start of every show season for certification by the AETC commander. Both teams kick off their 2006 performance schedules in March and will appear at about 20 air shows each through early November. The West Coast team is based at Randolph and the East Coast team makes its home at Moody Air Force Base, Ga. (Photo by David Terry)**

## TRICARE

Continued from Page 1

retirees, according to DoD documents.

The proposed changes would increase TRICARE Prime enrollment fees for junior enlisted retirees at pay grades E-6 and below to \$325 per individual and \$650 for families by October 2008.

Enlisted retirees at pay grades E-7 and above would pay \$475 for individuals and \$950 for families by October 2008 under the proposed changes.

Retired officers of all ranks would pay \$700 per individual and \$1,400 per family.

After that, the share of health care costs paid by military retiree would be indexed to the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program that covers federal workers and retirees.

If nothing is done now, then DoD could be paying \$64 billion for military health care in 2015, said Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Feb. 8 during testimony before the House Armed Services Committee.

Finding ways to manage increased military health care costs "is something we just have to face up to, because it's an enormous amount of money," said Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, at the same House hearing with General Pace.





Ensign Marcus Anthony  
P-3  
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Casey Cunningham  
HC-130  
Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



Ensign Timothy Curtis  
P-3  
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Charles Daniels  
B-52 (EWO)  
Barksdale AFB, La.



Ensign Sean Dougherty  
EP-3  
NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.



2nd Lt. William Gery  
EC-130H (EWO)  
Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. John Gharbi  
B-52  
Barksdale AFB, La.



Ensign James Hall  
P-3  
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Peter Hince  
C-130  
Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Stefan Ivansescu  
C-130  
Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. James Keenan  
E-3 AWACS  
Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Mark Kobussen  
RC-135 (EWO)  
Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Michael Lane  
EC-130  
Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Christopher Lesmes  
AC-130U (EWO)  
Hurlburt Field, Fla.



2nd Lt. Deana Lyons  
C-130  
189 AW, Little Rock, Ark.



2nd Lt. Antonio Martinez  
EC-130H (EWO)  
Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Daniel O'Brien  
B-52 (EWO)  
Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Steven Pfau  
RC-135 (EWO)  
Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Poole  
B-52  
Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Vincent Repucci  
C-130  
910 AW, Youngtown, Ohio



2nd Lt. Steve Rushing  
C-130  
165th AW, Savannah, Ga.



2nd Lt. Andrew Saylor  
AC-130H  
Hurlburt Field, Fla.



Ensign Nathaniel Saxton  
EP-3  
NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.



2nd Lt. Nathan Thirsk  
C-130E  
Pope AFB, N.C.



2nd Lt. Amanda Waechter  
C-130  
Dyess AFB, Texas



# CSOs graduate today

Twenty-two Air Force and five Navy aviators receive their navigator and naval flight officer wings during a combat systems officer course graduation today at 10 a.m. in the officers' club.

Col. John Newell, 12th Operations Group commander, will award the students their wings and will also name the winners of four awards for student achievement.

Guest speaker for the ceremony is Navy Capt. Lee Little, commodore of Training Wing 6 at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fla.

Captain Little earned her naval flight officer wings at Pensacola in 1984. She went on to graduate from electronic warfare officer school and took an assignment to Key West, Fla., where she joined the Firebirds of

Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 33. She flew in the EA-4F in support of the Fleet Electronic Warfare Support Group.

She continued her career at the Pentagon with tours on the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Chief of Naval Operations.

Captain Little went on to instruct T-39 airways and low-level navigation back at Pensacola followed by duty as the training program manager for leadership continuum courses for the chief of Navy Education and Training.

She served as an executive officer and squadron commander before joining Carrier Group 6 on board the USS John F. Kennedy as the assistant chief of staff for information warfare.



2nd Lt. Mark Wicker  
KC-135R  
RAF Mildenhall, UK



2nd Lt. James Wilson  
E-3 AWACS  
Tinker AFB, Okla.

## Commissary to close two days to finish work

In order to complete its yearlong renovation project, the commissary will be closed Thursday and Feb. 24 for installation of new shelving units and final adjustments to the meat and frozen food departments.

Prior to the two-day closure, the store will be open regular hours Saturday and Sunday, Monday for the Presidents Day holiday and Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Wednesday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The store reopens Feb. 25 at 8 a.m.

The commissary grand opening ceremony takes place March 7 at 8 a.m. During the event, which is open to the base public, the store will have giveaways and offer discount prices.

### NEWS BRIEFS

#### Dietary supplements survey

The Air Force Surgeon General announced dietary supplements as a special education focus for 2006. An anonymous Web-based survey will request participation from select military members at Randolph through Feb. 27.

The surgeon general requests those members picked take the time to complete the survey.

#### T-6 demonstration team activity

The Air Education and Training Command West Coast T-6A Texan II Aerial Demonstration Team hosts the Texan heritage conference Feb. 23-26. Flights featuring the World War II vintage Texan and the current T-6A Texan II will be flown on the east side of the base primarily on Feb. 25.

#### AFGE meeting

The next meeting of the American Federation of Government Employees Local 1840 takes place Tuesday at 5 p.m. in Bldg. 201 on the east side of the commissary. Employees can discuss issues and concerns at the meeting.

For more information, call the union office at 659-7918.

#### Student named merit finalist

Randolph High School senior Jesse Lind was recently named a National Merit Scholarship Program finalist for having placed in the top one percent of more than 1.3 million students taking the Preliminary SAT and National Merit qualifying test administered during the 2004-2005 school year.

Only about 15,000 students in the nation achieved finalist status this year.

Jesse is the son of Orville Lind, a retired colonel, and Col. Bonnie Lind. He is now eligible to compete for one of the 2,500 National Merit \$2,500 scholarships that will be awarded.

#### Band members win honors

Eight Randolph High School band members won awards at the Marion band competition, and three will advance to the Texas State Solo and Ensemble competition in May.

Advancing to the contest in San Marcos in May are Traci Derlein, Katie Ritter and Andrea Shannon who won a superior rating for their flute trio.

Derrick Manning received a superior rating on keyboards and also won an excellent rating on a snare drum solo. Erin Dougherty got a superior rating on a multiple percussion solo, while Traci, Bethay Keef and Katie were awarded an excellent rating on a flute trio.

The band's next competition is Thursday in Lytle.



# Concealed weapons prohibited on base

By Robert Vickers  
12th Security Forces Squadron

The 12th Security Forces has noticed a recent rise in discovering people attempting to enter Randolph with concealed firearms during random checks at the gates.

People on the Randolph community are reminded that carrying a concealed firearm is prohibited on all federal military installations.

A weapon is considered concealed when it's not in public view by design. Concealed weapons are a primary concern when they're handgun type weapons.

Each case of the recent discoveries revealed the people were authorized through the state of Texas to carry the firearm; however, the state laws pertaining to this activity do not apply on Randolph.

There are few exceptions to this policy, and those exceptions only concern on-duty police officers and federal law enforcement officials having jurisdiction on Randolph.

When someone has a concealed firearm on their person or in their vehicle, and they are approaching the installation, they're asked to identify that to the security forces or contract security guard posted at the gate.

Pre-announcing this fact will save time and a potentially embarrassing or career-damaging situation.

Firearms are not permitted in Randolph lodging facilities or in permanent party dormitories. People on an overnight stay in lodging who have a firearm must report to the 12th SFS Armory located in Building 235 to store their weapon.

The armory staff will return the gun to the person when they leave the base.

People can store firearms in their Randolph housing residences provided they meet all storage requirements.

Transporting a privately owned firearm on base for the purpose of going

to and/or from sporting events is authorized. Transporting weapons must be accomplished in accordance with Randolph Instruction 31-101, Installation Security Instruction.

Weapons must be out of arms reach, must be unloaded, and the ammunition must be separate from the weapon. For example, the weapon can be in the trunk while the ammunition is in the glove compartment.

When privately owned weapons are removed from housing or the armory, they must be transported immediately off base by the most direct route, except when taking them to the Randolph skeet range.

## Spotlight on Justice

The 12th Flying Training Wing Office of the Staff Judge Advocate recently announced the following Article 15 actions for the fourth quarter of 2005:

- An Airman assigned to Air Education and Training Command Computer Systems Squadron violated Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 112a, wrongful use of marijuana. The Airman was reduced to E-1 and received a general discharge for drug abuse.
- An Airman assigned to Air Education and Training Command Computer Systems Squadron violated UCMJ Article 111, drunk driving. The member received a suspended reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$350 pay for two months and a reprimand.
- An NCO assigned to Air Education and Training Command violated Article 92, misuse of government computer – pornography. The member was given a suspended reduction to E-5, forfeiture of \$250 pay for two months and a reprimand.
- An NCO assigned to Air Force Recruiting service violated Article 92, misuse of government travel card. The member received a suspended reduction to E-5, 14 days extra duty and a reprimand.

## Base holds prayer breakfast March 2

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

Randolph holds its annual National Prayer Breakfast March 2 at the officers club at 7 a.m.

All military members, civilian employees and guests are welcome.

The guest speaker will be Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Charles Baldwin, chief of the Air Force Chaplain Service.

Nationally acclaimed country gospel singer Clifton Jansky will perform at the breakfast. He lives in the local area and is well known to many people on base, said Chaplain (Capt.) Daniel Giorgi, a 12th Flying Training Wing chaplain.

In 1953, President Dwight Eisenhower was the first chief executive to preside over what was then called the Presidential Prayer Breakfast. It was originally an informal, ecumenical event at which the president got the leaders of Congress together to pray for bipartisan cooperation.

***“Our focus here on base is on the spiritual aspects of military service, especially the need for unity during times of war, disaster, pestilence and uncertainly.”***

Chaplain (Capt.) Daniel Giorgi  
12th Flying Training Wing

Since that first prayer breakfast, every president has observed the event annually and expanded its theme to advocate prayer for a variety reasons.

“Every day, millions of Americans pray for the safety of our troops, for the protection of innocent life and for the peace we all hope for,” President George W. Bush said Feb. 2 at the 54th Annual National Prayer Breakfast. “Americans continue to

pray for the recovery of the wounded and to pray for the Almighty's comfort on those who have lost a loved one. We give thanks daily for the brave and decent men and women who wear our nation's uniform, and we thank their families as well.”

Local prayer breakfasts, such as the one here next month, are offshoots of the national gathering in Washington, D.C.

Chaplain Giorgi said this nationwide event is a time of encouragement for people of all faiths.

“Our focus here on base is on the spiritual aspects of military service, especially the need for unity during times of war, disaster, pestilence and uncertainly,” he said. “We all can find hope and comfort in a loving God. This is most important in times when we need healing, emotional as well as physical.”

Tickets cost \$5 and can be purchased at the chapel office or from first sergeants.

# New personnel system presents opportunity

By Samantha Quigley  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The Defense Department's new National Security Personnel System, or NSPS, is on track for initial implementation, the system's program executive officer said Feb. 9.

"We're still on track to deploy folks into Spiral 1.1 in April," Mary Lacey said. "We've got over 11,000 (non-union) employees that are going in."

The NSPS program executive office designed the system for a staggered implementation based on a spiral model, she said. The approach has lead to delays, she said, but this has given the office a chance to tweak the program as it builds it.

Employees at Randolph Air Force Base will transition to NSPS in early 2007 as part of Spiral 1.3, said Barbara Bragg, chief of NSPS implementation Randolph.

The purpose of the spiral model to introduce NSPS was to build a little, test a little and learn a lot, Ms. Lacey said.

The most recent implementation delay was caused by a need to take another look at the system's



evaluation system. Ms. Lacey said it was robust but hard to understand and to put into action.

Some of the people who will be affected have expressed hesitation over changes it will bring, even if the changes are good for them, Ms. Lacey said. She said communication and training will help ease these fears.

"Conversations need to happen very, very frequently," she said. "Employees will be demanding more of supervisors' time. They'll be demanding more thoughtful conversations. If you find the time, while it's painful the first year, you will get paybacks forever."

One thing supervisors should be communicating to their employees is results.

"We're not just going to measure transactions," she said. "Transactions are interesting, but they're not

necessarily something that compels us to action or the only thing that helps us achieve our (objective)."

Supervisors also should set and level expectations for employees, Ms. Lacey said.

"When supervisors are giving their people feedback throughout the year, they need to talk in NSPS terms," she said. "A '3' is not a bad evaluation. That's a great, solid evaluation."

Evaluation ratings are based on a scale of 1 to 5, with the former number being an unsuccessful evaluation and the latter a "role model" assessment.

Under the system, evaluations will determine an employee's compensation. The system's three pay bands allow flexibility to adjust salaries and compensation to be competitive with the civilian sector, Ms. Lacey said.

"It's an important flexibility that we think we need to have in the department," Ms. Lacey said. "But we need to watch it. It needs to be fair (and) we need to make sure that in the process of being fair we don't ... price ourselves out of business."

Also important is that employees feel the system is being applied fairly, she said. That feeling will come from continuous conversations with supervisors so that employees know what's expected.



# AFMA activates four new squadrons

*Units at Tinker, Buckley Annex stood up in January, two more to follow this spring*

By Richard Salomon  
Air Force Manpower Agency Public Affairs

The Air Force Manpower Agency has activated four new manpower squadrons to more effectively meet the needs of today's expeditionary Air Force and to better position itself to support future capabilities.

The 5th Manpower Requirements Squadron at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., and the 4th MRS at Buckley Annex, Colo., held formal activation ceremonies in January. The 2nd MRS at NASA-Langley Research Center, Va., and the 3rd MRS at Scott AFB, Ill., will hold formal activation ceremonies later this spring.

The Air Force Manpower Requirements Determination Squadron, co-located at Headquarters AFMA, Randolph AFB, Texas, was activated in November 2001 and was redesignated as the 1st Manpower Requirements Squadron in December 2004.

As the Air Force continues its transformation efforts, the new manpower squadrons give senior leaders the necessary tools to make sound manpower, personnel and resource decisions now and in the future.

"These new squadrons have a clear mission: to determine Air Force manpower requirements, to define our emerging needs to counter a complex enemy and to do it with a significantly smaller force," said Col. Kenneth Keskel, AFMA commander. "With all the changes going on in today's Air Force, we need to ensure we have a flexible, enduring process to develop manpower standards for the total force and have the ability to document our critical deployment requirements up front."

The restructuring also centralizes the Air Force's

management engineering capabilities and positions manpower specialists to effectively support Air Force concepts of operations.

The squadrons are regionally based to support the major commands, which in turn champion the CONOPS. For example, the 2nd MRS is located near Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, Va., where it can effectively support global strike. A portion of the squadrons' resources will be used to support MAJCOM-specific studies, as authorizations were realigned from base and MAJCOM manpower staffs to man the new squadrons.

In addition, by being placed near the MAJCOMs, the squadrons' manpower specialists "will be able to better understand the commands and functional areas they serve," said Grover Lindsey, 3rd MRS deputy director, whose squadron activates in March. "It's a huge benefit to be able to team up with manpower people within our area of responsibility and develop working relationships with them. By meeting face-to-face with the action officers, we can learn how to better support them."

Despite the agency's restructuring, Colonel Keskel said its basic manpower mission remains the same.

"Just like the 1st MRS here at AFMA, these squadrons will be determining manpower requirements for the Air Force, and they will be doing special studies as required," he said. "However, with the addition of the new squadrons, we'll have all the resources together at each location to maximize what we are doing and produce a better product."

The squadrons will use a capability-based study process that goes beyond the traditional manpower scope by providing practical models that can be applied across the Air Force. This process gives Air



Force senior leaders a total force perspective, which allows them to make decisions on the proper use of critical manpower resources.

"Whether the Air Force is supporting war efforts or disaster-relief operations, we want these squadrons to have the necessary tools and be flexible enough to support the AEF construct," said Colonel Keskel. "It's all about giving our senior leaders the tools and information they need to address our future threats -- and these squadrons are going to help us do that."

AFMA is a field operating agency that reports directly to Headquarters U.S. Air Force Directorate of Manpower, Organization and Resources.

# AETC energy manager wins national award

By Megan Orton  
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

The U.S. Department of Energy awarded Garland Scott, Air Education and Training Command energy manager, the title of Federal Energy Manager of the Year for 2005.

Mr. Scott was chosen as the Air Force recipient for the award, which recognizes one energy management leader from each military service annually.

"This award is an acknowledgement by the people that I work with at many levels of government that I'm going the right direction," Mr. Scott said.

Mr. Scott has been managing energy for AETC for almost 10 years. As the major command energy manager, he is responsible for finding ways to achieve Department of Energy goals and creating innovative ways to save energy and cut costs for AETC.

In a June 1999 Executive Order, the Presidential facility energy reduction challenge was outlined, requiring the federal government to reduce energy by 30 percent by 2005 from the 1985 baseline. AETC not only met, but exceeded that goal, achieving a near 40 percent reduction by 2005, Mr. Scott said. The challenge now is to deliver the results mandated in the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

"The main idea of these initiatives is to reduce our use of foreign oil and the costs associated with its use from the global perspective," Mr. Scott said.

President Bush addressed these ideas in his Jan. 31 State of the Union address, saying, "America is addicted to oil, which is often imported from unstable parts of the world. The best way to break this addiction is through technology."

These technologically-advanced energy reduction techniques are exactly the kinds of programs that Mr. Scott continues to implement in AETC. There are ways to do this and still allow bases to be aesthetically pleasing, he said.

Generating energy from renewable energy sources, such as the installation of solar applications at AETC bases, can significantly reduce purchased energy costs. By placing photovoltaic cells on facility roofs, solar energy can be used to generate electricity that can be

***"Efficiency is the name of the game. We'll always have our mission at the base, and we'll always need light and air conditioning in our homes, but with more efficient products, it doesn't take as much energy to do what we need to do."***

Garland Scott  
Air Education and Training Command  
Energy manager



used for air conditioning or other facility functions. The first significant implementation of this system is the base exchange at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

Solar energy can also be used instead of natural gas to preheat water from the ground, reducing the amount of natural gas used to heat water to the desired temperature for use in base facilities.

We will soon begin to see energy being generated on AETC bases, according to Mr. Scott, because the newest products are more reliable and sold by more credible individuals than those in the past. Solar energy is not a cure-all solution but has its place in the energy mix, he said.

"Efficiency is the name of the game," Mr. Scott said. "We'll always have our mission at the base, and we'll always need light and air conditioning in our homes, but with more efficient products, it doesn't take as much energy to do what we need to do."

As natural resources become scarce, the need for renewable energy sources will become a very real issue, Mr. Scott said.

"We're consuming fossil fuel products much faster than they're being produced in the ground over the long haul, and known reserves are estimated to peak between the years 2015 and 2025," Mr. Scott said. "The next thing we know, we may not be able to live our lives the way we want to because we're fighting over the costs of available energies."

Mr. Scott's interest in energy reduction extends into his personal life as well. He has driven a Honda Hybrid since 2003 and has purchased Windtricity

since 2000. Windtricity, according to its website, is a voluntary renewable energy option for San Antonio City Public Service customers to purchase electricity generated by wind-powered turbines in West Texas.

Mr. Scott says he's made these changes in his personal lifestyle because from his point of view, it's the right thing to do.

"We need people out there just biting the bullet and taking the lead," Mr. Scott said. "Otherwise, people are not aware of these issues and don't pay attention to them."

Mr. Scott is a Professional Engineer in the State of Texas, a Certified Energy Manager, and a Green Building Engineer. He is also a member of the Boards of Directors for the Texas Solar Energy Society and Solar San Antonio. He is the recipient of the DOE's 2001 Federal Energy Management Award and 2004 Presidential Energy Award, and recognized as an Energy Champion by the DOE's poster program.



# Use caution around military working dogs

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

The 12th Security Forces Squadron military working dogs are often seen at the side of a security forces member working at the gates, searching vehicles or buildings, or patrolling the base.

The dogs are part of the base's force protection program.

"One very important thing to remember is these dogs are not pets," said Staff Sgt. Corby Czajka, a military working dog handler. "People should never try to pet these animals or give them food."

A good rule of thumb to follow is to keep a distance of at least 10 feet from the handler and his dog unless the handler says otherwise, Sergeant Czajka said.

Randolph currently has dogs that are trained in detection and patrol, which includes attack, obedience and searching for suspects.

Unfortunately, in the past several weeks, a few people at Randolph have placed themselves in bad situations while the dog teams have been in a training environment by ignoring posted signs.

"Luckily no one was hurt during these instances, and that is what we want to avoid," said Tech. Sgt. Antonio Rodriguez, Randolph kennel master.

Signs with warnings such as "CAUTION MILITARY WORKING DOG TRAINING IN PROGRESS KEEP OUT" or "DANGER EXPLOSIVE DOG TRAINING IN PROGRESS KEEP OUT" are posted around certain areas or buildings on base. Security forces vehicles may even have a sign saying "CAUTION Military Working Dogs" on them.

"We ask that people take note of these signs, as they are for your safety," Sergeant Czajka said. "Don't cross any of the areas where these signs are posted, because the military working dogs may be working on or off leash depending on the training session."

The dogs help the Department of Defense and Randolph fight the war on terrorism and protection of homeland security.

"If confronted with a military working dog, don't run. Instead, remain still and a handler or trainer will be close to the area to retrieve the dog," Sergeant Czajka said. "If you are outside and you hear 'loose dog,' remain still. Handlers and trainers will be attempting to secure the dog."



Handler Staff Sgt. Nathan Combs and military working dog Bak demonstrate the proper distance to stand from the dog using Staff Sgt. Corby Czajka as a bystander. (Photos by Javier Garcia)



During the demonstration, Sergeant Czajka tries to pet Bak.



Sergeant Combs and Bak simulate what could happen if someone attempts to pet a military working dog.

## COMMUNITY

# State honors Randolph assistant principal

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

A Randolph Field Independent School District member was honored recently for his work at the elementary school.

The Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association named Randolph Elementary School vice principal David Gibbs District 20 Assistant Principal of the Year.

Mr. Gibbs received his honor at the TEPSA Assistant Principals' Conference held in Austin recently. He is also going to be recognized at the TEPSA Awards Banquet June 7 in Austin.

Mr. Gibbs said the award is special to him because he was nominated and selected for it by his fellow school administrators.

"The award is truly a reflection of the hard work of the faculty, staff, students and parents of Randolph Elementary School," he said. "It has been an honor and privilege to work with military families and their children."

Working alongside elementary school principal Karen Bessette, Mr. Gibbs helped in the effort to have Randolph Elementary School designated as an "exemplary" campus by the Texas Education Agency. "Exemplary" is the organization's highest honor for a public school.

During Mr. Gibbs' time as assistant principal, the U.S. Dept. of Education recognized Randolph Elementary School as a "National Blue Ribbon School," which is that agency's highest honor.

Mr. Gibbs is an important part of the school, always there for students, staff and parents in his quiet and calm manner, Ms. Bessette said.

"Whether he is talking to kindergarten students about making good choices, looking out for school safety or helping teachers with students' progress, he puts our school family first," she said.

Mr. Gibbs' career has focused on education for 26 years, including 11 years in his current position as the assistant principal at Randolph Elementary School, where he began as a counselor in 1989.

He received his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and his master's degree from Southwest Texas State University.

His father, retired Colonel Charles Gibbs, completed pilot training at Randolph in 1950.

"This gave me the opportunity to grow up in a military family and understand what children go through when the Air Force is such a big part of their life," he said. "So not only do I have ties to Randolph, but to the military as well."

Everyone in the district is extremely proud of Mr. Gibbs for receiving this high honor, said Dr. Barbara Maddox, RFISD superintendent.



Randolph Elementary School vice principal David Gibbs sits with first grade students as they read from books they checked out at the library. (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)

"He has done an outstanding job in our district for years and is most deserving of the accolades by his state organization," she added.

District 20 is comprised of a 14-county area including Bexar County.

TEPSA represents more than 5,300 elementary and middle school leaders, including principals, assistant principals and central office administrators. Formed in 1917, the organization was founded to make children's futures better by improving education at the elementary level.



## In sync



Tampa Bay Buccaneers cheerleaders Monica Littlejohn (left) and Aimee Perkins perform a cheer with Alyson Clayborn Feb. 10 at the entrance to the base exchange store. The National Football League cheerleaders are conducting a goodwill tour with stops at Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities around the country. (Photo by Don Lindsey)

## Step team excels at first competition

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

The Randolph Young Stunnaz Step Team from the youth center entered its first competition recently and was named second runner-up in the 2006 Texas Step Show Competition in Tyler, Texas.

It was the first competition for the 10-girl team.

"Despite the fact that the competition was tough, the Young Stunnaz took the stage with plenty of pride and energy and excited a crowd of nearly 1,200 people," said Chris Fussell, youth center assistant director.

Historically, stepping is a form of communication and storytelling that is widely performed by fraternities and sororities, Ms. Fussell added. Stepping is partly rooted in the experience of African-American men working

on the railroad. To keep up their morale and forget about the pain, they would step.

"It was a tune that they marched to, a tune about a story and pain," Ms. Fussell said. "Today, fraternities, sororities and high school step teams perform step as a means of sending a message to the audience, and some routines are simply for entertainment."

Not being very interested in sports, team member Bria Howze said stepping is something she feels good about.

"I finally found something that is fun, and that I am good at," she adds. "It's a chance to hang out with my friends and just have fun."

The step team is looking forward to many more performances.

"I'm extremely proud of the young ladies performances in Tyler, and I have no doubt that this is just the beginning of great things to come," Ms. Fussell said.



# Base youth center offers gymnastics classes

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

Whether it's a three-year old boy who likes to tumble or an 18-year old girl who enjoys keeping her balance on the balance beam, the youth center has outlets for them to expand their creativity.

The center offers gymnastics classes for all ages 3 and up.

"The goal of the program is to teach the sport of gymnastics in a fun and safe environment while helping students develop a positive self-image and increased confidence," said Chris Fussell, youth center assistant director.

Sasha Schwarz said she enjoys gymnastics because she wants to be a professional gymnast when she grows up.

"I like gymnastics because you get everything you need out of it - exercise, muscles and more," she said.

Recreational classes are offered for boys and girls, pre-school age and older.

The gymnastics program is housed in the youth center in Building 585. The facility is equipped with a variety of equipment, including an uneven bar, balance beams, vault table, parallel bars, pommel horse and pre-school equipment.

Preschool gymnastics are for children ages 18 months to three years old. The classes focus on parents helping their children learn basic gymnastic skills and coordination by

using fun activities.

"Children are introduced to obstacle courses, balance beams, tunnels and music in the class," Ms. Fussell said.

Recreational gymnastics are for children 3-5 years old. This class focuses on expanding and enhancing the children's development of coordination, strength and other gymnastics skills, she added.

The recreational girls gymnastics class is geared toward girls ages 6-18.

"The class for girls introduces further age appropriate skill development and additional skills needed to help transition to the Junior Olympic program if desired," Ms. Fussell said.

Recreational boys gymnastics for ages 5-8 focuses on expanding their gymnastics skills using coordination and strength.

The recreational boys' gymnastics team for ages 9-18 follows the class structure taught in the Junior Olympic program, Ms. Fussell said. During the classes, boys become familiar with apparatuses such as the pommel horse and parallel bar.

Developmental girls, advanced and competitive teams are by invitation and evaluation only, Ms. Fussell said.

"This is an exciting time for the gymnastics program at the youth center," said Rodney Tramble, youth programs director. "We've started the new year with an additional instructor, which allows us to take students off of our waiting list and provide better



Instructor Ozzie Beckman helps Molly Herrera practice on the balance beam during the tumbling class at the youth center Monday. (Photo by Javier Garcia)

service to the community."

Classes are offered Monday and Wednesday at 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Tuesday at 4 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday at 6 and 7 p.m.; and Saturday from 9-11 a.m. All age groups are welcome during any of these times, depending on how often students would like to attend.

The 3-4 year olds meet Monday and Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. for tumbling classes.

"The mission of the youth center is to try to offer quality programs and

professional staff to serve our best resources – our children," Ms. Fussell said.

Danielle Dunham takes gymnastics classes because she said they're a lot of fun.

"I want to learn more, such as back handsprings and more moves like that," she said. "I want to be a cheerleader when I get to high school, so I want to learn the basics now so I don't have to start from scratch."

To sign up for a class, call the youth center at 652-2088.

# Education staff offers study tips

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

When it comes to studying, some college students prefer the quiet of the library, some prefer spreading their books around their room and reading on their bed, while others prefer to study in front of the television or while listening to the radio.

While there are numerous ways a person can study and do their homework, the way they use their time is valuable.

The education center offers a variety of tips to help students get the most out of their study time.

"Most students have only a limited time to study and can get the most out of their study efforts with the use of time management," said Jim Morris, education counselor.

Students should pick a certain place to study that is free of distractions and a place where they would only go to study, she added. Everyone has different comfort zones that allow them to concentrate while relaxing.

"Studying in smaller time blocks during the semester is much more effective than waiting until the night before a test," Ms. Morris added.

Ms. Morris suggests trying the 50-minute rule: Study up to 50 minutes at a time then take a 10-minute break.

When it comes to deciding whether or not a student should seek out a study group, the decision depends on the person's method of learning and the study group itself, Ms. Morris said.

"Study groups offer the opportunity to get organized as well as improve understanding of the material by sharing ideas," she said. "If the student enjoys learning in a group situation, students could benefit from the other perspectives."

Daniel Torres, a student at Texas State University,

***“Study groups offer the opportunity to get organized as well as improve understanding of the material by sharing ideas. If the student enjoys learning in a group situation, students could benefit from the other perspectives.”***

Jim Morris  
Education counselor

recommends study groups of small numbers.

"I would recommend between 2-5 students per group," he said. "The best way to learn the material is to interact with each other and explain what you've learned. The best way someone has mastered the material is if they can explain it themselves."

Mr. Torres said one thing that has always helped him was dividing the work into sections, planning ahead and taking it slow. Cramming the night before or trying to remember too much at once may not be as effective.

When it comes time for the first day of class, Ms. Morris suggests students introduce themselves to the professor to get to know them before class begins.

"This way, if you have questions or concerns down the road, you will feel more comfortable asking them for help," she said. "Students should always make the instructor a partner in their learning process."

For example, if the student knows they will miss a class, it would be a good idea for the student to ask the instructor how they can make it up.

"Taking responsibility for learning is probably the biggest difference between high school and college," Ms. Morris said. "And the professor will see that you are trying to get the most out of your education."

Mr. Torres suggests showing the instructor that effort is always present in class.

"This shows a sincere interest in understanding the work," he said. "Most teachers will be willing and helpful to listen to their students."

Another way students can practice good studying techniques is by taking notes during class and reviewing them later.

"Notes help catch those important points the instructor makes in class and serve as guideposts for test review," Ms. Morris said. "If the teacher talks about it in class, they probably think it important enough to test."

Ms. Morris suggests developing a system when taking notes, such as writing only on one side of the paper in dark ink, leaving room for additional comments on the other side. Students should review their notes soon after class, allowing for corrections and additions.

Notes also reinforce the lecture once it is over, Mr. Torres added.

"Many times teachers reward students for attending class, listening and jotting down what is said," he said. "Notes are always a helpful study tool."

Students who are the most successful in college tend to set goals and continually remind themselves of the importance of these goals, Ms. Morris said.

"These students are usually characterized by maintaining a positive attitude, having a willingness to learn and a desire to always do their best," she said. "Successful students welcome challenges and are enthusiastic about learning."



# Tuskegee legacy lives on

By Bob Hieronymus

12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – It is one of the most powerful stories of human triumph of any generation that helped advance the American civil rights movement.

The year was 1941 and the Army Air Corps began a program to train African-American pilots to fly at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Many expected this "Tuskegee Experiment" to fail.

However, the program was not only a milestone in training military pilots, but the Tuskegee Airmen went on to achieve unprecedented combat success in World War II by never losing a bomber under their fighter escort to enemy fire.

While their heroic tales have been documented in movies and books, the Tuskegee Airmen legacy is alive and well on Randolph at two of the original Tuskegee units.

Randolph is home to the first all-black squadron in history, the 99th Pursuit Squadron, now known as the 99th Flying Training Squadron. It was formed in 1941 at Tuskegee Institute in a time when African-Americans were strictly segregated in the armed forces and in the nation at large. Army regulations then actually stated that, because of their race, blacks were incapable of being leaders.

The base also serves as the home station for the 100th Flying Training Squadron, which was the second of the World War II Tuskegee squadrons to stand up.

Today the two squadrons, the 99th as an active duty Air Force unit and the 100th as an Air Force Reserve Command unit, train instructor pilots. The 99th FTS flies the T-1A. The 100th FTS provides reserve instructor pilots who augment all Randolph units conducting instructor training in the T-1A, T-6A, T-37B and T-38C.

Lt. Col. James Garrett, 99th FTS commander, said the members of his unit embrace their Tuskegee heritage and conduct several programs to pay tribute to the unit's lineage.

"We have an excellent collection of original artwork and memorabilia related to the Tuskegee Airmen in our squadron area and a tremendous wall mural featuring photographs of the Tuskegee flying and support people," Colonel Garret said.

The 99th provides speakers for ROTC and high



A group of Tuskegee Airmen assigned to the 15th Air Force in Italy in March 1945 work out details of their next assignment in a pre-mission briefing. (Library of Congress photo)

school groups to educate young people about the Tuskegee Airmen, and several members of the unit make an annual trip to Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., where they meet with Air Force ROTC cadets from Tuskegee University and provide them with orientation flights in the T-1.

"The original Tuskegee Airmen proved they could be whatever they wanted to be," Colonel Garrett said. "Our purpose with these special programs is to encourage the next generation of Airmen to follow their example."

Lt. Col. Robert Wittmann, commander of the 100th FTS, pointed out that several of the Randolph T-1 aircraft are painted with a red tail flash in honor of the tail markings the Tuskegee fighter aircraft carried during World War II.

"The reputation of the 'Red Tails' was widely respected then by friend and foe alike," Colonel Wittmann said.

In January, the two squadrons sponsored a visit by two of the original Tuskegee Airmen.

"We also invited the Carver Academy in San Antonio, the school started by Spurs star David Robinson, to join in the event by

conducting a Tuskegee Airman essay contest for the students," Colonel Wittmann said. "The winner read his essay at our luncheon. We plan to continue our association with the school as a way of encouraging young people to hold on to the ideals the Tuskegee legacy gives us."

Capt. LeRon Hudgins, an instructor pilot in the 99th FTS, is one of the people who continues to prove the heritage of the Tuskegee Airmen is alive and well in the Air Force today.

"As an African-American pilot and the only one in the squadron, I'm proud to be a part of this organization," he said. "Every time I walk in the door and see the pictures of the Tuskegee Airmen on the walls, I'm reminded of the breakthrough they achieved. I appreciate what they did to let me live my dream today."

Captain Hudgins had a special part in the January observance of Martin Luther King's birthday. He flew a T-1A over the crowd in San Antonio at one of the nation's largest marches that honors the civil rights leader on his national holiday. An estimated 100,000 people participated in the event that day.

A 100th FTS Airman said she has a special reason to appreciate the Tuskegee legacy.

"I'm grateful for their sacrifices, which makes it possible for me to serve in the Air Force today," said Master Sgt. Lisa Cockrum. "I've not experienced the barriers to service they did."



CELEBRATING  
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Mechanics of the 99th Fighter Squadron work on the engine of the P-51 in February 1944. Pilots of the 99th FS shot down 12 Nazi fighter planes in a two-day period that month. (Photo from National Archives)

NOW



Capt. LeRon Hudgins, an instructor pilot in the 99th Flying Training Squadron, conducts a pre-flight check of a T-1A Feb. 8 on the Randolph flightline. (Photo by Master Sgt. Jack Braden)



Capt. LeRon Hudgins of the 99th Flying Training Squadron views the photos on the Tuskegee Airmen heritage wall in his unit Monday. (Photo by Master Sgt. Jack Braden)



# On top of her game

## Female referee calls it like she sees it

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

By day, she helps keep people's teeth straight at the dental clinic. By night, she keeps the plays straight on the court. Staff Sgt. Lapenia Williams, treatment coordinator at the dental clinic, is a basketball referee on and off base. "I have loved sports since I can remember," Williams said. "I grew up playing basketball and being a tomboy." Williams has called about 70 games since she started in September.

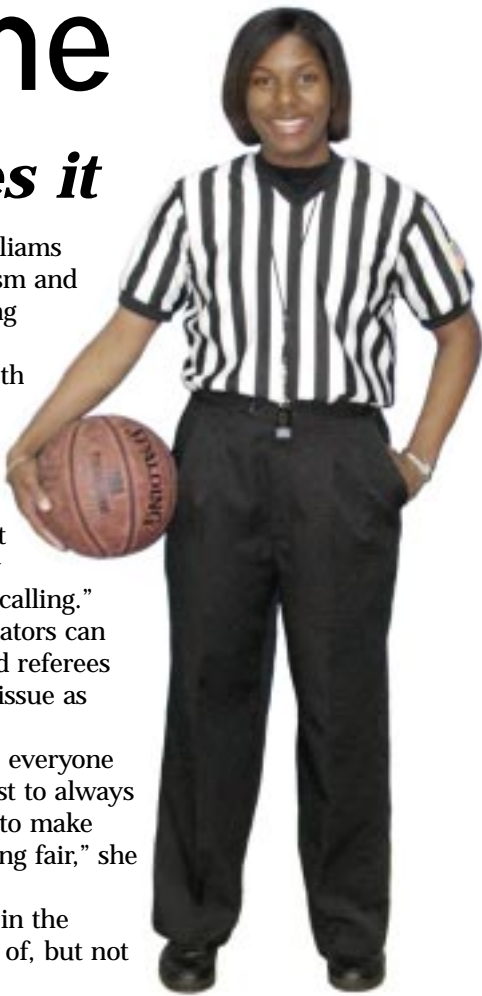


Sergeant Williams takes an impression of a patient's teeth at the dental clinic Monday.

Williams has to have her eyes open and stay alert at all times during a game. She has to watch the players and the spectators to make sure everything is kept in order. "I am responsible for a lot during the games," she said. "It's important for me as well as the other referees to stay on top of things on the court and in the stands." Williams and the other referees meet with the captains to discuss the rules of the game before the game starts, she said. During the game, they look for fouls, violations and any issues that may arise on the court. "We are there to protect the players from injury and protect their rights with the rules we set," she said. "Safety is the number one priority." Gregory Walker, who plays on the Air Force Personnel Center

She attended training in San Antonio through the Texas Association of Sports Officials, she said. The referees that go through the program have to attend 10 hours of training by fellow referees to learn the rules and mechanics of the game. They then have to pass a test before calling their first game. "The training was very beneficial for me," Williams said. "Even though I have been playing basketball for a long time, I still learned a lot about the different rules of the game."

basketball team, said Williams exemplifies professionalism and fairness at all times during games. "Whether you agree with her game calls on the court or not, she is stern and unwavering," he said. "With her knowledge of the sport, it only enhances her ability for unprecedented game calling." Williams said the spectators can often get out of hand, and referees have to be aware of that issue as well. "We can't always make everyone happy, but we try our best to always apply the rules correctly to make sure every player is playing fair," she added. There are 350 referees in the program Williams is part of, but not a lot are women. "We are always looking for new volunteer referees, especially women," she said. "The referees are sent all around the South Texas area wherever they are needed." Because she showed how hard she could work and how much she learned, the organization moved her from being the referee at school games to intramural games on and off base. "Being a single mom makes it hard at times to find the chance to work at a game, but when I get the opportunity to, I really enjoy it," she added. "My children came and watched their first game, and it was great to have them there, watching me do what I love to do." Williams said she enjoys being the referee at the games because she likes interacting with the players. "She is a fair referee. She has called a couple of AFPC games and she did well in my eyes," said Charlie Freeman, who plays basketball for the AFPC team. "I would say she is one of the better referees we have in this league." Williams has her sights set further than the courts here. "There is currently only one NBA female referee," Williams said. "I want to be the second one."



Lapenia Williams in her referee uniform. (Photos by Jennifer Valentin)



### Basketball Standings as of Wednesday

INTRAMURAL	W	L
12 CPTS/MSS	7	0
AFPC	6	2
JPPSO	5	2
AETC CSS	5	2
12 MDG	4	3
562 INSTR	3	4
562 C FLT	1	6
12 SFS	1	6
12 CES	0	7
EXTRAMURAL		
AFRS	4	0
AFPC 2	5	1
AETC/DP	5	1
AFPC 3	4	1
AETC CSS	2	1
12 LRS	3	2
AFSVA	3	2
AFMA	2	3
AFPC 1	2	3
12 OSS	1	4
AETC/SG	1	6
19 AF	0	7



### Bowling Standings as of Feb 6

Team	W	L
AFSVA	104	48
AETC/SC	96	56
SVS	92	60
AFMA	92	60
AFPC	90	62
AMO	88	64
CS	86	66
AETC/LG	82	70
DFAS	82	70
AETC/FM	80	72
AFPOA	74	78
SFS	73	79
OSS	72	80
RATS	71	81
JPPSO	66	86
CPTS	58	94
AFSAT	56	96
AFPC/DFSG	56	96
340 FTG	52	100
MED GP	46	106

### TEAM SCRATCH SERIES

Team	Score
RATS	2847
AFSVA	2799
AFPOA	2714

### TEAM HANDICAP SERIES

Team	Score
AETC/SC	3447
AFSAT	3301
OSS	3259

### TEAM SCRATCH GAME

Team	Score
SVS	986
CS	975
JPPSO	880

### TEAM HANDICAP GAME

Team	Score
AFPC	1183
AETC/FM	1164
AFPC/DFSG	1079

### SCRATCH SERIES

Men	Score
Jim Layman Jr.	693
Chris Williams	693
Paul Wiley	680
Gregory McClain	653
Women	Score
Sheila Lawrence	631
Heather Hellmann	546
Shirley Harmon	527

### HANDICAP SERIES

Men	Score
Mike German	748
Billy Cooper	736
George Bunch	717
Women	Score
Lori Trainor	714
Debbie Cervera	691
Wanda Gailan	648

## Tall ball



Richard Langlois (45) of the 12th Comptroller Squadron/Mission Support Squadron team leaps to block the shot of Dana Venenga of the 12th Medical Group during an intramural basketball game Monday at the fitness center. CPTS/MSS won 67-33 to remain undefeated at 7-0 on the season. MDG fell to 4-3 with the loss. (Photo by Javier Garcia)

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### High school powerlifters win big

Randolph High School's boys' and girls' powerlifting teams won first place awards and walked away with a combined six first place finishes in individual competition at the San Marcos Baptist Academy meet recently. For the championship girls, gold medals were won by Alisha Bailey, 132 pound class; Leanna Matthews, 148 pound class; Jamonyca Wilson, 165 pound class, and Paige Carpenter, 181 pound class. Gold medals for the boys were won by Jace Merrill, 165 pound class; Zach Collins, 198 pound class, and Kyle Kuhl, 220 pound class. Second class silver medals for the girls went to Ericka Guillen, 97 pound class; Leah Solomon, 114 pound class, and Ashley Ortiz, 148 pound class. Silver medals for the boys went to Chris Del Frate, 123 pound class; Carlo Velez, 132 pound class; Chris Washington, 148 pound class, and Diego Velez, 242 pound class. A third place finish went to Ternace Carter, 165 pound class in the girls division, while fourth place honors were won by Anthony Perry, 198 pound class, and Mike Schoenrock, 220 pound class. Fifth place honors were captured by Lance Copeland, 181 pound class.

### Ro-hawk signs letter of intent

Zach Collins, senior running back for the Randolph High School Ro-Hawks football team, signed a letter of intent Tuesday to play football for Virginia Military Institute. Collins won All-City honors for Randolph and led the team in rushing.

### Golf Tournament

A Presidents Day golf tournament takes place Monday with tee times form 7-9 a.m. at Randolph Oaks Golf Course. To sign up, call 652-4653.